

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 09592 052324Z
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TO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 09592

PERSONAL FOR SECDEF FROM AMB BENNETT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, OVIP, NPG

SUBJ: BILATERAL MEETING AT NPG BARI

1. NEW DANISH DEFENSE MINISTER SOEGAARD (FOUR DAYS IN OFFICE) SPOKE WITH ME TODAY DURING NATO COUNCIL VISIT TO JUTLAND. HE VERY MUCH WANTS TO HAVE BRIEF BILATERAL WITH YOU DURING BARI NPG MEETING. I GATHER REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE THROUGH EMBASSY COPENHAGEN. HE SAYS 5-10 MINUTES ARE ALL HE NEEDS. HE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT F-16 PROBLEM AND DANISH VIEW THEY HAVE NOT GOT THEIR SHARE OF CO-PRODUCTION. MATTER WAS DISCUSSED WITH AIR FORCE SECRETARY STETSON WHEN HE WAS HERE RECENTLY.

2. LATER AT SAME MEETING PERMANENT UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE TALKED WITH ME ABOUT RECENT EC MOVE TO IMPOSE CUSTOMS DUTIES ON F-16'S. HE SAID DENMARK WAS NOT AS CONCERNED AS BELGIUM OVER THIS ISSUE AS THEY HAD INCLUDED FUNDS IN THEIR BUDGET TO INCLUDE CUSTOMS COSTS. THEY WILL JOIN BELGIUM IN FIGHTING ISSUE BUT DO NOT REALLY EXPECT TO WIN. HE SAID WITH A SMILE, HOWEVER, IT WOULD SAVE DENMARK 12 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH THEY COULD APPLY TO PURCHASE OF MORE HARPOON AND TOW MISSILES.

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3. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT BARI. REGARDS.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

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